

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A magnetic core material ~~including~~comprising a composite material of a soft magnetic metal powder and plastic or rubber,
wherein the soft magnetic metal powder is concatenated by spontaneous magnetization to form a plurality of aggregates, and
the longitudinal direction of each aggregate faces a substantially fixed direction.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A magnetic core material ~~including~~comprising a composite material of a soft magnetic metal powder having a diameter of about 1 μm or less and plastic or rubber,
wherein the soft magnetic metal powder is concatenated by spontaneous magnetization to form a plurality of aggregates, and
the longitudinal direction of each aggregate faces a substantially fixed direction.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The magnetic core material according to Claim 1-~~or~~2,
wherein the volume ratio of the content of the soft magnetic metal powder is in a range of 10% to 50%.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The magnetic core material according to Claim 1-~~or~~2,
wherein the volume ratio of the content of the soft magnetic metal powder is in a range of 10% to 40%.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The magnetic core material according to ~~any one of Claims~~Claim 1-~~to~~4,
wherein the soft magnetic metal powder includes any one of a nickel powder, a cobalt powder, and an iron powder which are obtained by reducing an oxide.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The magnetic core material according to ~~any one of~~

~~Claims~~Claim 1 to 4,

wherein the soft magnetic metal powder includes any one of a nickel powder, a cobalt powder, and an iron powder by using a gas phase method.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The magnetic core material according to ~~any one of~~
~~Claims~~Claim 1 to 4,

wherein the soft magnetic metal powder includes any one of a nickel powder, a cobalt powder, and an iron powder which are obtained by reducing a solution containing metallic ions.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The magnetic core material according to ~~any one of~~
~~Claims~~Claim 1 to 4,

wherein the soft magnetic metal powder includes a carbonyl nickel powder or a carbonyl iron powder.

Claim 9 (currently amended): An antenna in which a spiral conductor pattern is formed on one surface of the magnetic core material worked in the form of a plate according to ~~any one of~~
~~Claims~~Claim 1 to 8.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An antenna in which a spiral conductor pattern is formed on one surface of the magnetic core material worked in the form of a plate according to ~~any one of~~
~~Claims~~Claim 1 to 8, and a conductive material is disposed on the other surface of the magnetic core material.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The antenna according to Claim 9 or 10,
wherein the plate-like magnetic core material consists of a plurality of magnetic core material pieces in which the longitudinal directions of the aggregates of the soft magnetic metal powder are different from each other.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The antenna according to ~~any one of~~ ~~Claims~~Claim 9 to 11,

wherein the conductor pattern is formed in a rectangular shape, and the plate-like magnetic core material is disposed so as to be overlapped with only one side or two opposite sides of the rectangular conductor pattern, as viewed from a direction orthogonal to a surface of the plate-like magnetic core material.

Claim 13 (currently amended): An antenna in which a leading wire is wound around the magnetic core material worked in the form of a plate according to ~~any one of Claims~~Claim 1 to 8 such that the magnetic axis of the magnetic core material may substantially coincide with the longitudinal directions of the aggregates of the soft magnetic metal powder.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The antenna according to ~~any one of Claims~~Claim 9 to 13, wherein the antenna is used for an RFID tag or an RFID reader/writer which uses at least a VHF band or a UHF band as a communication frequency.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a magnetic core material using a composite material of a soft magnetic metal powder and plastic, the method comprising the steps of: heating and kneading the soft magnetic metal powder and the plastic; and ~~thereafter~~ working the kneaded composite by using any one method of extruding, rolling, rolling after extruding, drawing after extruding, and rolling after injection so that the longitudinal directions of a plurality of aggregates formed by concatenating the soft magnetic metal powder by spontaneous magnetization may face a substantially fixed direction.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a magnetic core material using a composite material of a soft magnetic metal powder and plastic, the method comprising the step of: applying a direct-current magnetic field after a film is coated with ink in which the soft magnetic metal powder is suspended in a solvent which has dissolved the plastic and before the coated film is dried so that the longitudinal directions of a plurality of aggregates formed by concatenating the soft magnetic metal powder by spontaneous magnetization may be aligned in a substantially fixed direction.